Reviewer’s report

Title: Survival After Lobectomy Versus Sub-Lobar Resection in Elderly with Stage I NSCLC: A Meta-analysis

Version: 2 Date: 21 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Research Square

Reviewer's report:

"STATISTICAL REVIEWER ASSESSMENT:

Is the study design appropriate for the research question (considering whether the analyzed population accurately reflects the design and whether you see any problems with control/comparison groups, e.g., likely confounders)?
Yes - overall design, population, and control groups are appropriate

Are methodologies adequate and well implemented (considering whether assumptions are addressed and whether analyses are robust)?
No - there are major issues

Are the analyses adequately communicated (considering whether reporting details are adequate and whether figures and tables are well labeled and described)?
Yes - important reporting details are present, analyses are adequately communicated, figures and tables are well labeled and described

Does the interpretation accurately reflect the analyses without overstatement (considering whether limitations/bias are acknowledged and whether accurate descriptors, e.g., 'significant', are used)?
No - there are minor issues

Could an appropriately REVISED version of this work represent a statistically sound contribution?
Maybe - with major revisions

STATISTICAL REVIEWER COMMENTS:

MOOSE guidelines are recommended for meta-analysis of observational studies. Were the guidelines followed? Please provide a MOOSE checklist if guidelines were followed.
Why was the search restricted by published language? Restriction by language is not recommended.
The authors should provide the complete search strategy for at least one research database.
Please provide a reference for the interpretation of the I2 statistic (heterogeneity).
REQUESTED REVISIONS:
Apart from the above suggestions, I would suggest a separate section within the Discussion section to describe the limitations of the study and to moderate the findings from this study.

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:
The manuscript needs substantial reworking for sentence formation, language and grammar."

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

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2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
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